

*Ins B27*

1 37. (New) A method according to claim 36, further comprising,  
2 issuing a priority channel request to the servicing communication station if the result of  
3 the comparison reveals that the received digits correspond to an emergency code.

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1 38. (New) A method according to claim 37, wherein the priority channel request denotes a  
2 priority class of service that is greater than that of non-emergency telephone calls, such that the  
3 servicing communication station reallocates communication channel parameters to facilitate the  
4 priority channel request.

*Ins B37*

1 39. (New) A method according to claim 38, wherein reallocation of communication channel  
2 parameters include one or more of tearing down a lower priority communication channel to  
3 facilitate the priority channel request, reallocation of bandwidth of one or more communication  
4 channels to provide bandwidth to the priority channel request, modifying a spatial domain  
5 multiple access (SDMA) reuse pattern to provide bandwidth for the priority channel request, and  
6 the like.

*Cntr X*

1 40. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein determining whether a communication  
2 channel is available comprises:  
3 receiving an off-hook detection signal at the transceiver;  
4 issuing a channel request from the transceiver to the servicing communication station;  
5 and

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Concl .6 receiving a response at the transceiver from the communication station to the channel

7 request denoting whether a communication channel is available.

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1 41. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the indication that all communication  
2 channels are currently unavailable includes one or more of a fast busy signal, a null signal  
3 (silence), a monotone signal, and/or any signal other than a dial tone.

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1 42. (New) A method according to claim 35, further comprising:  
2 issuing a priority channel request to the servicing communication station if the subscriber  
3 unit receives digits from the telephone interface denoting one or more emergency codes  
4 associated with one or more emergency services.

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1 43. (New) A method according to claim 42, further comprising:  
2 facilitating the emergency telephone call over a communication channel made available  
3 by the communication station through call completion.

DNP EXIT

1 44. (New) A method according to claim 35, further comprising:  
2 converting dual-tone, multiple frequency (DTMF) tones received from the telephone  
3 interface representing the telephone number entered by the user to digital signal(s) for the  
4 transceiver.

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1 45. (New) A method according to claim 44, wherein said conversion is performed even if the  
2 subscriber unit receives an indication from the servicing communication station that all  
3 communication channels are currently unavailable.

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1 46. (New) A method according to claim 35, wherein the emergency codes are one or more of  
2 a telephone number, a speed-dial code and/or a shortened emergency services code.

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1 47. (New) An article of manufacture comprising a machine accessible storage medium to  
2 provide machine executable instructions which, when executed, cause a machine to implement a  
3 method according to claim 35.

*INS 8A*

1 48. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit comprising:  
2 a telephone interface, to enable a user to enter a telephone number to place a telephone  
3 call; and  
4 a transceiver, coupled to the telephone interface, to accept entry of a telephone number  
5 entered by the user even after determining that no communication channels are currently  
6 available from a servicing communication station, and to issue a priority channel request to the  
7 communication station for a communication channel if the telephone number received from the  
8 telephone interface corresponds to one or more emergency services.

*16* *15*

1 49. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim 48, further comprising:



2           an off-hook signal generator, responsive to the telephone interface, to generate an off-  
3       hook signal to prompt the transceiver to request a communication channel from the  
4       communication station when the user lifts a handset of the telephone interface to place a call.

1       7. (New)   A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim ~~49~~, wherein the  
2       transceiver responds to the off-hook signal by requesting a communication channel and  
3       providing the telephone interface with an indication denoting whether a communication channel  
4       is available from the communication station.

1       18. (New)   A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim ~~50~~, wherein the  
2       transceiver provides one or more of a fast busy signal, a constant monotone signal, and/or any  
3       tone other than a dial tone as an indication to the user via the telephone interface that no  
4       communication channels are currently available to facilitate a telephone call.

1       19. (New)   A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim ~~48~~, further comprising:  
2           a dual-tone, multiple frequency (DTMF) converter to convert DTMF signals generated by  
3       the telephone interface representing the telephone number entered by the user in to digital signals  
4       appropriate for input to the transceiver.

1       53. (New)   A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim 52, wherein the DTMF  
2       converter remains enabled to receive and convert DTMF signals for the transceiver even if the  
3       transceiver determines that no communication channels are currently available.

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1 54. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim *53*, wherein the  
2 transceiver receives and decodes the digital signals to determine whether the user is dialing an  
3 emergency number, even if there are no communication channels available to support the call.

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1 55. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim *54*, further comprising:  
2 a memory device, to store one or more codes associated with an associated one or more  
3 emergency services, wherein the transceiver compares received digital signals associated with a  
4 user-entered telephone number against the stored one or more codes to determine whether the  
5 user is telephone number is associated with the one or more emergency services.

*1 Ins B67*

1 56. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim *55*, wherein the  
2 transceiver compares the digital signals associated with the user-entered telephone number  
3 against the one or more codes on a digit-by-digit basis as the telephone number is entered.

1 57. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim *48*, the transceiver  
2 comprising:  
3 a memory, to receive and retain one or more codes associated an associated one or more  
4 emergency services; and  
5 a processor, coupled to the memory, to receive digital signals representative of the dialed  
6 telephone number and compare the received signals to the one or more codes stored in memory  
7 to detect telephone calls to the one or more emergency services.

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1 58. (New) A wireless local loop subscriber unit according to claim *48*, further comprising:

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2       an on-/off-hook detector, coupled between the telephone device and the transceiver, to  
3       provide an off-hook indication to the transceiver when the user lifts a handset of the telephone  
4       interface.

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1     59. (New)    A wireless local loop communication system comprising:  
2              a communication station, to communicatively couple the one or more wireless local loop  
3        subscriber units to a wireline telephony network; and  
4              a wireless local loop subscriber unit, communicatively coupled to the communication  
5        station, to accept entry of a telephone number by a user via a telephone interface even after  
6        determining that no communication channels are currently available between the subscriber and  
7        the communication station, and to determine whether the telephone number entered corresponds  
8        to one or more emergency services necessitating a priority channel request for a communication  
9        channel if no communication channels are otherwise available.

1     60. (New)    A wireless local loop system according to claim 59, the wireless local loop  
2        subscriber unit comprising:  
3              a transceiver, coupled to the telephone interface, to accept the telephone number entered  
4        by the user even after determining that no communication channels are currently available, and to  
5        issue a priority channel request for a communication channel if the telephone number entered  
6        corresponds to one or more stored emergency codes associated with a commensurate one or more  
7        emergency services.

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1 61. (New) A wireless local loop system according to claim 60, wherein the transceiver issues  
2 one or more priority channel request(s) to the communication station to obtain a communication  
3 channel if no communication channels are otherwise available upon detecting entry by the user  
4 of a code associated with an emergency service.

*GK*

1 62. (New) A wireless local loop system according to claim 60, wherein the stored codes  
2 include one or more of a standard telephone number associated with a single emergency service,  
3 a speed dial code, and/or a shortened telephone number to an agency serving multiple emergency  
4 services.

*GK*

1 63. (New) A wireless local loop system according to claim 62, the subscriber unit further  
2 comprising:  
3 a memory device, coupled to the transceiver, to receive and retain one or more emergency  
4 codes.

1 64. (New) A wireless local loop system according to claim 59, the communication station  
2 comprising:  
3 a transceiver, to receive priority channel requests from one or more subscriber units and  
4 modify one or more communication channel parameters to accommodate a priority channel  
5 request when no communication channels are otherwise available.

1 65. (New) A wireless local loop system according to claim 64, wherein the modification of  
2 one or more communication channel parameters includes one or more of tearing down an

3 existing call to free the communication channel to accommodate the priority channel request,  
4 lowering bandwidth associated with one or more communication channels to free bandwidth for  
5 an additional communication channel to accommodate the priority channel request, and/or  
6 modifying one or more spatial domain, multiple access (SDMA) reuse parameters to obtain a  
7 communication channel to accommodate the priority channel request.

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1 66. (New) An article of manufacture comprising:  
2 a machine accessible medium to provide instructions which, when executed by a wireless  
3 local loop subscriber unit, cause the subscriber unit to determine whether a communication  
4 channel is available at a servicing communication station to accommodate a telephone call upon  
5 detecting an off-hook signal from a telephone interface, provide the telephone interface with an  
6 indication denoting the unavailability of a communication channel if it is determined that the  
7 communication station does not have a communication channel available, and enable receipt of  
8 one or more digits of a telephone number from the telephone interface even if no communication  
9 channels are available to determine whether a priority channel request is required to facilitate an  
10 emergency telephone call.

1 67. (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 66, further comprising instructions  
2 which, when executed, cause a wireless local loop subscriber unit to compare each of the  
3 received digits, as received, against one or more emergency codes maintained in the subscriber  
4 unit to determine whether the received digits correspond to one or more emergency services  
5 associated with the one or more emergency codes.



*JNP E7*

1 68. (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 66, further comprising instructions  
2 which, when executed, cause the wireless local loop subscriber unit to issue a priority channel  
3 request upon detecting entry of an emergency code even if no communication channels are  
4 currently available.

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1 69. (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 68, wherein the priority channel  
2 request denotes a priority class of service that is greater than that of non-emergency telephone  
3 calls, such that the servicing communication station reallocates communication channel  
4 parameters to facilitate the priority channel request.

*JNP E7*

1 70. (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 66, further comprising instructions  
2 which, when executed, cause a wireless local loop subscriber unit to facilitate an emergency  
3 telephone call through completion via a communication channel made available by the  
4 communication station in response to the subscriber units priority channel request.

*JNSB 87*

1 71. (New) An article of manufacture according to claim 66, further comprising instructions  
2 which, when executed, cause a wireless local loop subscriber unit to convert dual-tone, multiple  
3 frequency (DTMF) tones received from the telephone interface representing the telephone  
4 number entered by the user to digital signal(s), wherein said conversion is performed even if the  
5 subscriber unit receives an indication from the servicing communication station that all  
6 communication channels are currently unavailable.